

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JUNE 23, 2009

RELATED TO ITEM: #9

For the last ten years FilmLA has administered film permits on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. Rather than contacting several County departments, production companies apply to FilmLA, a non-profit organization whose core purpose is to secure the necessary approvals on the applicant's behalf. Once all of the necessary clearances are obtained, FilmLA issues the permit on behalf of the County.

The FilmLA process has worked very well for all involved parties. County staff has one point of contact at FilmLA for all questions related to individual film permit applications. Production companies avoid the time and effort involved in approaching several different County agencies to secure approval of a permit. In addition, FilmLA staff is available to the public whenever issues arise on individual film shoots.

Filming represents a multi-billion dollar industry in the Los Angeles region that employs thousands. In addition to the creative individuals who write, produce, and star in feature films, television series, and commercials, there are thousands more who edit sound, operate video equipment, build stages, provide special effects, construct and supply props, or otherwise support the industry. Local and national unions represent many of the individuals who work on both the technical and the creative side of the industry. Beyond the industry itself, there is a massive "multiplier effect" in the local economy in terms of goods and services.

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The partnership between the County of Los Angeles and FilmLA is a model for effective public-private partnerships. It has worked so well that several of the cities in the County and other public agencies have signed on with FilmLA to handle the issuance of film permits in their jurisdictions. FilmLA has established itself as an effective liaison between the entertainment industry, local government, and the public.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate a sole-source, long-term contract extension with FilmLA and bring a final contract back to the Board of Supervisors within 90 days.

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